Suspension of World Bank Aid to NRHM

2971. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank has announced the suspension of aid to various Government run projects like Reproductive and Child Health under the aegis of National Rural Health Mission;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the matter has been taken up with the World Bank and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the above (a).

(c) The Reproductive and Child Health-I Project, which is a component of National Rural Health Mission, was negotiated with the World Bank in April/May, 2005. However, this project has not been submitted to the World Bank Board for approval because during the review of the World Bank funded RCH-I project which closed on 30.09.2004, the department of Institutional Integrity (INT) of World Bank had found some irregularities in procurement. Thereafter the Government of India and the World Bank are in constant dialogue to agree on an action plan that will strengthen the procurement systems and ensure greater transparency.

Anarchy and conflict in AIIMS

†2972. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi is suffering from internal conflict and anarchy as a result of which not only the internal atmosphere is deteriorating but also the good doctors are leaving the institute;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some Dr. V.S. Mehta had written a letter to him and apprised of the whole scenario; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences has reported that there is no internal conflict and anarchy. There is a trend over the last ten years that 7-8 doctors leave the Institute either by resignation or on voluntary retirement on personal grounds. However, this has not led to any deterioration in the secvices. Neither AIIMS nor this Ministry has received any letter from Dr. V.S. Mehta on the reported internal atmosphere of the Institute.

Shortage of Aids drugs

2973. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of Aids drugs since December, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to supply these medicines immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No Sir. There is no shortage of drugs under the programme, though some centres reported shortage of drugs for a short period of time. These centres were BJ Medical College, Ahmedabad; Medical College, Indore and IMS BHU, Varanasi. All ART centres were provided ARV drugs in July 2005 based on estimated requirements indicated by the respective State AIDS Control Society and the institutions. However, the number of patients registering for ART far exceeded these assessments resulting in some short term shortage.

The ARV drugs were procured in 2004 for 10,000 patients and during 2005 for 25,000 patients. Presently, there are 28,919 patients on ARV. As these patients were not started at the same time, the increase has been progressive and therefore, there is no actual shortage of drugs.

(c) The drugs from centres with low patients load like Pondicherry and Nagaland were shifted to these centres, to ensure no interruption in the treatment.